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ample, as Chapter V., on "Definitions of Words and Phrases," and Chapter VI., on "Construction Contracts," which are placed between the chapters on bonds and those on mortgages—the reason for which is not by any means obvious. There are some few mistakes in punctuation which are, perhaps, unavoidable in a work of this size, and yet which ought not to occur in a digest. On page 19 the classification indicated by the figure "5" should probably be indicated by letter "d," and in the note the word "interpose" is used instead of "interfere." Again, on page 20, the name of the case is omitted, when the citation is given—an alleged virtue, according to some authorities, but a defect in a book where the authorities are, on the whole, so fully and carefully cited as in Mr. Short's. The occasional slips in the punctuation, however, only serve to emphasize the great care which must have been taken in the reading of the proof.

We are disposed to think that Mr. Short forgot his theory in writing certain of the chapters; for example, Chapter XIV., on "Rolling Stock and Car Trusts," and Chapter XXVIII., on "Preferred Debts," are more than usually good discussions of very interesting topics, and the author has gone so far in some cases as actually to take exception to certain rulings of the courts and to express an opinion to the contrary. We repeat that we wish he had applied the same good judgment by a criticism of the large number of cases where the courts were in direct conflict, as we cannot but feel that the lawyer's debt to his profession is not fully paid unless he has given, for what it is worth, his own judgment as to what the law should be, as well as his recital of what the law is.

R. D. B.

MINERAL LAW DIGEST. Callaghan & Co., Chicago. 1897.

Mr. Clark, one of the compilers of the Mineral Law Digest, calls our attention to the fact that no claim to exhaustive treatment of Mineral Law in general is made for this book, but only of the Mineral Public Land Law, as found in the Statutes of the United States and applying to the states and territories where such lands still exist. In our review of last month we recognized the limitations of the treatment, but mistook the extent of the claims made for the work. *Pa. Coal Co. v. Sanderson*, however, the absence of which from the Digest we noted, certainly was a case of "mineral land law," as the question was what constitutes a "natural use" of the mineral lands. The claim of exhaustiveness we quoted contained no limitation to Federal land law; but if that was the intention we are glad to remark it, and to absolve Mr. Clark and his able companions from the imputation of not doing all they set out to do.

REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION; held at Cleveland, Ohio, August, 1897. Philadelphia: Dando Printing and Publishing Co. 1897.

This book is valuable to the profession in general, because of the